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Attorney Docket # 5085-19PUS

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Patent

APR

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re National Phase PCT Application of

Gerhard HOFFACKER et al.

Int'l PCT Serial No.: PCT/EP00/04368

Int'l Filing Date:: May 16, 2000

For: Method For Producing A Cyanide-Free
Solution Of A Gold Compound That Is
Suitable For Galvanic Gold Baths

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

2900 Crystal Drive

Arlington, VA 22202-3550

SIR:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO 1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted simultaneously with the filing of the present application.

The enclosed references are cited in the International Search Report of the corresponding International application. All of the references are indicated in the Search Report as merely being technological background.

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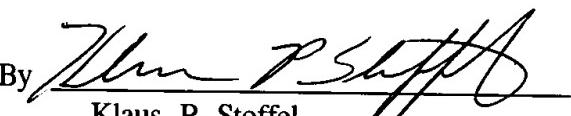
The present invention defines a specific method for producing a cyanide-free solution of a gold compound that is suitable for galvanic gold baths, which is not believed to be disclosed by the enclosed references.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97(g) and (h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56(b), or that any cited document listed or attached is (or constitutes) prior art. Unless otherwise indicated, the date of publication indicated for an item is taken from the face of the item and Applicant(s) reserve(s) the right to prove that the date of publication is in fact different.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that the copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Respectfully submitted,
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By



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